[9th February 1924

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Does it mean that the Regulation gives the Government the power to depart from it in any case they choose ? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" The interpretation which the Government have placed on the Regulation is that it is open to give the allowance required to provide for the maintenance of these prisoners or to give rations instead of the allowance."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In regard to that interpretation, have the Government taken legal opinion ?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I think not."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" If so, will the Government now take legal opinion as to whether under that Regulation it is open to the Government to change or modify the provision in that Regulation ? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I will consider that question, Sir."

Railways.

Railway communication between Mysore and South Kanara.

437 Q.—Khan Bahadur HAJI ABD-UL-LA HAJI QASIM : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether railway communication between Mysore State and South Kanara is likely to be opened, or whether it is under contemplation and if so, in what stage the proposals are ?

A.—The subject is under the control of the Government of India, and the Government are unable to make any statement on the subject.

Raliway line from Salem to Rasipuram.

438 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal before Government to open a railway line from Salem to Rasipuram in preference to the already sanctioned and matured scheme of opening a railway line from Salem to Attur ; and

(*b*) whether in view of the prevailing acute distress in the Salem district, the Government contemplate the possibility of giving preference to the Salem-Attur line as a famine relief measure over the Salem-Rasipur line ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 226.

Virudupatti-Tenkasi railway line.

439 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the scheme of Virudupatti-Tenkasi railway line is going to be put into effect in the near future ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 227.